

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 remain in the application and claims 1, 4, 7, and 9 have been amended hereby. Claims 11 and 12 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 13-17 have been added.

A Letter with Proposed Drawing Changes is submitted herewith proposing to spell out "MMI" in Fig. 9, item 31F, as --MAN MACHINE INTERFACE--, as required in the Office Action at paragraph 2.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-3, 7, 8, and 11, as being anticipated by Lee et al.

A feature of the present invention is a terminal device including a slot for inserting and ejecting a memory device that stores information for user authentication (e.g. username/password).

Another feature of the present invention is that when the terminal device detects that the memory device is inserted into the slot, a request for authentication is sent to a network server by sending the information for user authentication and information about the terminal being used (e.g. a TV). When the network server authenticates the user, the information for user authentication and the information about the terminal being used is stored in the network server for future communication with the terminal device.

See page 12, line 21 to page 14, line 16 of the present application, for example.

Independent claims 1 and 7 have been amended to recite these features of the present invention and new claims 13, 15, and 17 have been added to recite same.

Looking at Lee et al. we see that the system of Lee et al. does not show or suggest the use of a slot for inserting and ejecting a memory device. Further, the system of Lee et al. does not show or suggest the terminal device sending an authentication request in response to the detection of the insertion of the memory device into the slot. The system of Lee et al. merely allows the user to manually enter a user profile regarding the delivery of desired communications. See col. 2, lines 66-67, col. 7, lines 36-37, and Table 1 in col. 4 of Lee et al., for example.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1 and 7, the claims depending therefrom, and new claims 13, 15, and 17, are patentably distinct over Lee et al.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 4-6, 9, and 10 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Boyle et al.

Independent claims 4 and 9 have been amended to recite the above-noted features of the present invention now recited in amended independent claims 1 and 7. Amended independent claims 4

and 9 are submitted to be patentably distinct over Lee et al. for the same reasons that amended independent claims 1 and 7 are submitted to be patentably distinct thereover and, because there are no features in Boyle et al. that somehow could be combined with Lee et al. and result in the presently claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 4 and 9, and the claims depending thereof, are patentably distinct over Lee et al. in view of Boyle et al.


Claims 11 and 12 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection thereof moot.

For at least the above-noted reasons new claims 13-17 are submitted to be patentably distinct over the cited art.

Entry of this amendment is earnestly solicited, and it is respectfully submitted that the amendments made to the claims hereby raise no new issues requiring further consideration and/or search, because all of the features of this invention have clearly been considered by the examiner in the prosecution of this application and because the present amendments serve only to further define and emphasize the novel features of this invention.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 4, 7, and 9 by rewriting same to read as follows and cancel claims 11 and 12, without prejudice or disclaimer. Please add new claims 13-17.

--1. (Three Times Amended) A network system comprising:

a terminal device including a slot for inserting and ejecting a memory device that stores information for user authentication; and

a network server connected to said terminal device via prescribed communication means, wherein [a user of the network system and said terminal device to be used by the user are recorded in said network server] when said terminal device detects that said memory device is inserted into said slot, a request for authentication is sent to said network server by sending said information for user authentication and information about terminal specification to said network server, and said information for user authentication and said information about terminal specification is stored in said network server for future communication with said terminal device when said network server authenticates the user, and said network server converts information to be transmitted to said terminal device used by the user into conformed information conformed to said terminal device used by the user, and transmits the conformed information to said

terminal device.

--4. (Three Times Amended) A network system comprising:  
a terminal device; and

a network server connected to said terminal device via prescribed communication means, wherein [a user of the network system and said terminal device used by the user are recorded in said network server] when said terminal device detects that said memory device is inserted into said slot, a request for authentication is sent to said network server by sending said information for user authentication and information about terminal specification to said network server, and said information for user authentication and said information about terminal specification is stored in said network server for future communication with said terminal device when said network server authenticates the user, and when there is information to be transmitted to said terminal device used by the user, said network server notifies said terminal device used by the user of the presence of the information to be transmitted.

--7. (Three Times Amended) A network server connected to a terminal device via prescribed communication means, comprising:  
receiving means for receiving an authentication request including information for user authentication and information about terminal specification in response to said terminal device

detecting insertion of a memory device storing said user authentication information;

recording means for recording [a] said user [of said terminal device and said terminal device used by the user] authentication information and said information about terminal specification in said server when said user authentication information is authenticated; and

transmission means for converting information to be transmitted to said terminal device [used by the user] into conformed information conformed to said terminal device [used by the user] based on said information about terminal specification, and transmitting said conformed information to said terminal device.

--9. (Three Times Amended) A network server connected to a terminal device and via prescribed communication means, comprising:

receiving means for receiving an authentication request including information for user authentication and information about terminal specification in response to said terminal device detecting insertion of a memory device storing said user authentication information;

recording means for recording [a] said user [of said terminal device and said terminal device used by the user] authentication information and said information about terminal

specification in said server when said user authentication information is authenticated; and

notice means for notifying[, ] when there is information to be transmitted to said terminal device [used by the user, said terminal device used by the user] of the presence of the information to be transmitted.

--13. (New) A terminal device connected to a server comprising:

a slot to insert and eject a memory device that stores information for user authentication; and

authentication request means for requesting to said server authentication by sending said information for user authentication and information about terminal specification when said memory device is detected to be inserted into said slot, wherein said information for user authentication and said information about terminal specification are stored on said server for future communication with said terminal device when said server authenticates the user.

--14. (New) A terminal device connected to a server comprising:

a slot to insert and eject a memory device that stores information for user authentication; and

erase request means for requesting to said server an erase

of stored information by sending said information for user authentication and information about terminal specification when said memory device is detected to be ejected from said slot, wherein said stored information including said information for user authentication and said information about terminal specification are deleted from said server when said server authenticates the user.

--15. (New) A method executed on a terminal device connected to a server comprising the steps of:

detecting that a memory device storing information for user authentication is inserted into a slot; and

in response to the detection, requesting to said server authentication by sending said information for user authentication and information about terminal specification, wherein said information for user authentication and said information about terminal specification are stored in said server for future communication with said terminal device when said server authenticates the user.

--16. (New) A method executed on a terminal device connected to a server comprising the steps of:

detecting that a memory device storing information for user authentication is ejected from a slot; and

in response to the detection, requesting to said server an



erase of stored information including said information for user authentication and said information about terminal specification by sending said information for user authentication and said information about terminal specification, wherein said stored information on said server is deleted from said server when said server authenticates the user.

--17. (New) A method executed on a server connected to a terminal device comprising the steps of:

receiving an authentication request including information for user authentication and information about terminal specification, in response to said terminal device detecting insertion of a memory device storing said user authentication information;

storing said user authentication information and said information about terminal specification on said server when said user authentication information is authenticated;

converting information to be transmitted to said terminal device into information conformed to said terminal device based on said received information about terminal specification;

transmitting said converted information to said terminal device.--